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Group Art Unit: 2818

Examiner:

Docket No.:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kazumasa HASEGAWA et al.

Application No.: 09/934,550

Filed: August 23, 2001

FERROELECTRIC MEMORY DEVICE, METHOD OF For:

MANUFACTURING THE SAME, AND EMBEDDED DEVICE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the August 27, 2002 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-23, drawn to a semiconductor device, classified in class 257, subclass 295, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-49 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

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Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:EDM/gam

Date: September 26, 2002

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